

**BT/CT/RAD Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 10:00 AM**

Attendees: Cheryl Gauthier, Tanya Swanson, Jennifer Jenner, Deborah Carter, Sue Koszalka, Paul Servizio, Kim Doan, Cynthia Condon, Melissa Cumming, and Sydney Fuller-Jones

Facilitator: Cheryl Gauthier

Recorder: Sydney Fuller-Jones

Next Scheduled Meeting: January 10th, 10:00am – 11:00am, Lobby Conference Room

CT Lab

New Instruments and Methods

- Second ICP-MS installed in new Lab, the old ICP-MS will be moved to the new Lab when the proficiency testing is finished.
- The Lab has new instruments in the GC Lab: 2 Triple Quads, and 1 Single Quad.
- New LC/MS installed this summer.
- Increases CT Lab capacity more than two fold.
- New Raman benchtop in the CT Lab. Creating a drug library, and ordered some commercial for the instrument.
- The CT Lab is performing two PT's this week, Toxic Elements in Urine, and Volatile Organic Compounds.

Molecular Lab

- Has a ViiA™ 7 Real-Time PCR System, which can analyze multiple targets in one sample. Uses 384- or 96-well plates and Array Cards. Good for determining co-infections in one sample.

BT Lab

Training

- The Sentinel Lab surveys were sent out last week; responses as well as questions are coming in.
- Bio-Safety Cabinet Training: The State Lab has purchased several CD's at a cost of \$300.00 each from Eagleson Institute. Deb is looking into alternate training options.
- The Wadsworth Center in NY has developed an extensive training that is free. Although the information is good, the video quality is not great. This training will be offered; but if Deb receives complaints, she will provide the Eagleson CD.

- The 2012 training schedule, which includes Sentinel Laboratory, Bio-Security & Bio-Safety, Packaging & Shipping and First Responder trainings, is currently being finalized.
- Deb attended a two-day IATA training and will use what she learned to develop a Packaging & Shipping training that will be offered to both Sentinel Labs and State Lab personnel.
- The Ship Hazmat software licenses will soon be tied to specific individuals rather than to computers. The Lab has 5 licenses. Special training will be required in order for these individuals to access the site. There will be new checklists, and two people will be required to sign off on the checklists. The FAA can inspect the Lab at any time; therefore Deb wants to ensure there are no violations!

Testing

- Water testing: The BT Lab did very well in the recent EPA Full-scale Water Exercise. The CDC/EPA are hoping to get other BT Labs in the country to be able to test large volumes of water for bio-agents and are planning another multi-center validation study for March of 2012. At this time, only Massachusetts and NY have the capability in this area. Water testing analytes: Ricin toxin, bacteriological agents, and smallpox.

Radiation Lab

- Proficiency testing is ongoing. Sue stated that reporters were finally allowed at the Fukushima site – there was a 3-reactor meltdown. Conditions are reported as devastating.
- Cheryl is teaching with Tom O’Connell at the Hazmat Technician Course in Springfield on Monday. She will talk about the BT Lab and present the JBTRS. Tom is teaching RAD instruction.

Suggestions for Potential Speakers for BT/CT Meeting

- Cheryl will contact Shawn Boyce (USPS) to see if he can talk about the changes in the BDS System. Some machines will be removed and relocated to other facilities and there will be changes in the types of mail that will be screened.
- Medical Examiner contacted the CT Lab to have someone come to the OCME to talk about the Lab’s capabilities. Maybe interesting for one of the ME’s to come to the State Lab.

Reference Lab

- The Reference Lab has two new CO2 incubators.

Meeting Frequency

- Everyone felt that monthly meetings for 2012 would be acceptable. Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, 2012, in The Lobby Conference Room.